

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"CHIEF OF BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY"
AND REFER TO
O-4.237

August 31, 1938.

Dr. Leonard E. Swanson,
P. O. Drawer 231,
Moultrie, Georgia.

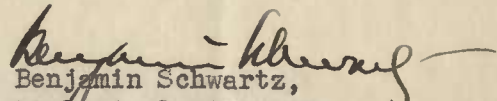
Dear Doctor Swanson:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of August 29 in which you state that the Swift Packing Plant at Moultrie, Georgia, would like to set up a demonstration of the swine sanitation system on a plot of land close to your laboratory and to the packing plant. As I understand the proposal, the Swift Packing Plant would purchase 3 sows, supply feed and care for the sows and raise two litters a year from each sow, the management practices being those recommended by the Bureau for the control of kidney worms and other internal parasites. Your contribution to this project would consist in supervising the management practices with a view to insuring a strict adherence to the sanitation system, and a final inspection post mortem for kidney worms and other parasites of all the pigs raised. I understand also that the sows and pigs would remain the property of Swift & Company and would finally be disposed of by that company in accordance with its own wishes.

I can see no objection to this cooperative work and I feel that by carefully following the plan as a whole, making observations from time to time on the gain in weight by the pigs, and finally getting a complete post-mortem picture, would contribute materially to scientific knowledge regarding the effectiveness of sanitation as a control for swine parasites.

I am in agreement with you regarding the lack of adherence by farmers in the vicinity of Moultrie to the scheme for controlling kidney worms and other internal parasites of swine. Dr. Raffensperger felt that it was impossible to insist on a rigid adherence to all of the points of parasite control and so he compromised as much as possible. I suggest, however, that you, in so far as it is possible to do so, work on the basis of a rigid adherence to the swine sanitation plan, making compromises only in cases where you deem this desirable and necessary. In order to get scientific results it will be necessary for you to develop a system of keeping records. However, this is a matter which I will take up with you when I see you in Moultrie some time in October.

Sincerely,


Benjamin Schwartz,
Chief, Zoological Division.

MEMORANDUM

BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

P.O. Drawer 231
Moultrie, Georgia
August 29, 1938

Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry
Washington, D.C.

Attention: Dr. Benjamin Schwartz:

Dear Sir:

I have been told by Mr. McDowell, manager of the Swift Packing Plant that Dr. Raffensperger had an experimental swine sanitary set up in cooperation with Swift here next to our laboratory. Mr. McDowell would like me to set up a complete unit on the swine sanitation plan on his lots, having three sows and raise two litters each year from each sow. The set up to be called the Bureau of Animal Industry demonstration plot on sanitation. Swift and Company to secure the sows and the boar, hire a man to look after them, furnish all feeds, materials, and equipment. All we would have to do is to supervise the set up with no additional cost to our department. This plan appeals to me very muchly as one would have a good set up here under close supervision to show the hog raisers of the south the proper procedure of a swine sanitation plant. There are a number of farmers by here every day, either visitors to our office or bringing hogs to the market.

I would appreciate hearing from you on this plan, also receiving suggestions etc.

The swine industry of the south appears to me to be in a tough spot, from a parasitic standpoint and from close observation on trips to sanitary pigeries and farms in general they have a big job ahead of them yet. In judging the plants seen I will say that they are not following the methods of the Bureau swine sanitation but are very fortunate in having sandy soils. These sandy soils apparently inhibit or destroy the development of parasitic eggs and larvae. I must admit that they are making a good stab at swine sanitation as the pigeries are clean. The sows however are out in open field and do have access to swamps and old hog wallows. This is wrong and one sees so much of it down here and to the semi wild hog on the open range is a parasitic and mineral picture. With reference to minerals they cannot raise hogs or cattle here without a mineral supplement.

It is a big problem and again I would like to talk over the problems and outline the methods of attack, before launching any big program, with you.

Respectfully,

Leonard E. Swanson
Inspector In Charge